

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of
Sumio SUGITA, et al.

Docket No: Q87633

Appln. No.: 10/534,354

Group Art Unit: 3722

Confirmation No.: 4827

Examiner: Erica E CADUGAN

Filed: May 9, 2005

For: MAIN SHAFT DEVICE AND MACHINE TOOL WITH THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicants are filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is believed necessary. Nonetheless, if a fee is indeed necessary, the USPTO is authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-4880.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, Chinese Office Action for CN 2004800090888 dated June 22, 2007 together with an English-language translation of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. Applicants also enclose a copy of Japanese Office Action for corresponding Japanese Application 2003-096503 without a translation thereof. The document listed in this OA is submitted herewith together with an English language abstract.

Additionally, Applicants submit English-language abstracts herewith for JP-A-08-294802 (cited in Chinese Office Action) and JP-A-07-024603 (cited in Japanese Office Action).

CN-A-1158288 is cited in the Chinese Office Action and EP 0743511 A1 corresponds to CN-A-1158288.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Jeffrey A. Schmidt /

Jeffrey A. Schmidt
Registration No. 41,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON DC SUGHRUE/265550

65565

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 27, 2007

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Jeffrey A. Schmidt /

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Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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